

DEC 1951 01-40

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY India

SUBJECT Student Activity and Educational Standards in Colleges
of University of Delhi/Communist PropagandaPLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.)

25X1A

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DAS NO.	
OCI NO.	

DATE DISTR. 8 June 53

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

- Student organizations in colleges of University of Delhi are few and those that do exist are usually little more than on paper. Most of the colleges have a student union, which corresponds to a student council in US universities. The student union is a going concern and is an exception to the usual disinterest in school organizations. Clubs for extracurricular activity suffer from the inherent disinterest of the Hindu in group projects. My college has attempted to start language clubs in the classics and in public speaking. The first few meetings are well attended and then attendance drops off to nothing. An inhibiting factor hampering such clubs is the preferred living schedule followed by Hindu students which results in a late dinner hour followed immediately by retirement.
- The student union at Nirmala College of University of Delhi staged a strike in December 1952 against the college administration demanding a revision of the union constitution. Union members demanded that they be given complete control over administration of the college and that handling of the annual government stipend given the college for partial defrayment of expenses (25 thousand rupees) be turned over to their jurisdiction. The faculty of Nirmala College is resisting efforts to take administrative control away from them. Though the strike was called off shortly the demands still stand. St. Stephens College of University of Delhi, run by Church of India (Anglican) has steadfastly refused a student union charter and no union exists. Students there are satisfied without one. Indian college students have been representing themselves of late more as an overenthusiastic endorsement of the freedom of India from the Reg. than anything else. I do not believe that Communist agitation is the great factor. Young Hindus delight in chaos and in ordering people around if they think that they can get away with it.
- Indian secondary schools are the weak link in the educational system. The British established few and, instead, relied on sending children back to the UK for that phase of their education. Therefore, the Indians inherited little in secondary school facilities. Colleges of University of Delhi have been obliged to offer at least one year preparatory school work to entering students in order to qualify them for college level work.

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4. Beginning in 1955 an entrance examination in Hindi language will be required of all applicants. At the present time all teaching is being conducted in English. Very likely Hindi will not replace English as the latter is spoken generally throughout the country. More likely, Hindi will be a second language at best.
5. Communist propaganda in New Delhi is disseminated mostly by lectures and sale of books. Some professors of the University have guest lecturers from the Soviet and Chinese Embassies who promote such themes as Asia for the Asians, and the interest of the USSR in that cause. Newsboys sell well bound translations of the better Russian books for as little as one rupee. Such works are usually those of the best 19th Century Russian authors. College students are attracted by the price and the authors and buy the books readily. Russian nationalism is being promoted more than Communism.

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